

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first, and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter that is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **VIRULENCE-ASSOCIATED NUCLEIC ACIDS AND PROTEINS AND USES THEREOF**, the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims[\*\*, as amended by any amendment referred to above\*\*].

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information I know to be material to patentability in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

**FOREIGN PRIORITY RIGHTS:** I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f), or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or § 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below, and have also identified below any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Country	Serial Number	Filing Date	Priority Claimed?
			Yes/No

**PROVISIONAL PRIORITY RIGHTS:** I hereby claim priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional patent application(s) listed below filed by an inventor or inventors on the same subject matter as the present application and having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

Serial Number	Filing Date	Status
60/410,376	September 12, 2002	Pending
60/410,817	September 13, 2002	Pending

**NON-PROVISIONAL PRIORITY RIGHTS:** I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information I know to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Serial Number	Filing Date	Status

I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: Paul T. Clark, Reg. No. 30,162; Karen L. Elbing, Ph.D., Reg. No. 35,238; Kristina Bieker-Brady, Ph.D., Reg. No. 39,109; Susan M. Michaud, Ph.D., Reg. No. 42,885; James D. DeCamp, Ph.D., Reg. No. 43,580; Jeffrey Ellison, Ph.D., Reg. No. 51,649; J. Cooper McDonald, Ph.D., Reg. No. 52,011; Jan Tittel, Ph.D., Reg. No. 52,290; Michael J. Belliveau, Ph.D., Reg. No. 52,608; R. Todd Armstrong, Ph.D., Reg. No. 54,590.

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patents issued thereon.

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Signature:			Date:

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